



MONTFORT ADAGE

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Greetings of Peace

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I am glad to share a few thoughts to all the Donors, Benefactors and Friends of Montfort Centre, Singapore.

As we are in the mid of 2025, it is time to do a deep review of our **perseverance in virtue**. At the beginning of the year, we all made resolution to walk with God, to live according to His Way, His Truth and His Life. Where are we now in the journey?

A Time for Everything (Ecclesiastes 3: 1-8)

There is a time for everything,

and a season for every activity under the heavens:

a time to be born and a time to die,

a time to plant and a time to uproot,

a time to kill and a time to heal,

a time to tear down and a time to build,

a time to weep and a time to laugh,

a time to mourn and a time to dance,

a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them,

a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing,

a time to search and a time to give up,

a time to keep and a time to throw away,

a time to tear and a time to mend,

a time to be silent and a time to speak,

a time to love and a time to hate,

a time for war and a time for peace.

The above scripture can help us do an examen of our spiritual walk and spiritual talk. Where am I in these spiritual paradoxes?

(Cont'd on p. 2)

Story of Montfort at Cesson Bridge

On his way to Paris to become a priest, Montfort met three poor beggars at a bridge. To the first, he gave all his pocket money. To the second, he gave his extra clothes.

But when he met the third beggar, Montfort had nothing left except the clothes on his body. So, he swapped clothes with the beggar and walked on wearing the beggar's torn and tattered clothes.

From that day, Montfort chose to live like Jesus: poor, trusting that God would take care of him every step of the way.



The value of perseverance in virtue is considered as an important element in Christian perfection. We are all on the journey to perfection in Jesus Christ.

What then is the perfection in Jesus Christ?

St Paul points us to Philippians 2:7-11, "but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."

Our Lord Jesus' journey to the earth is described as "kenosis" or self emptying. As Son of God and Son

of Man, Jesus held to this virtue of self-emptying so that the filling of God into creation and humanity can be accomplished.

As Montfortians, we look constantly at the two movements of Jesus, that is, the descending and the ascending. These movements happen all the time, and we can connect them to the Scripture: "A time for everything." From the standpoint of virtue or spiritual attitude growth, we descend in humility into nothingness and ascend into somethingness, as in the words, "The Lord has anointed me to bring good news to the poor."

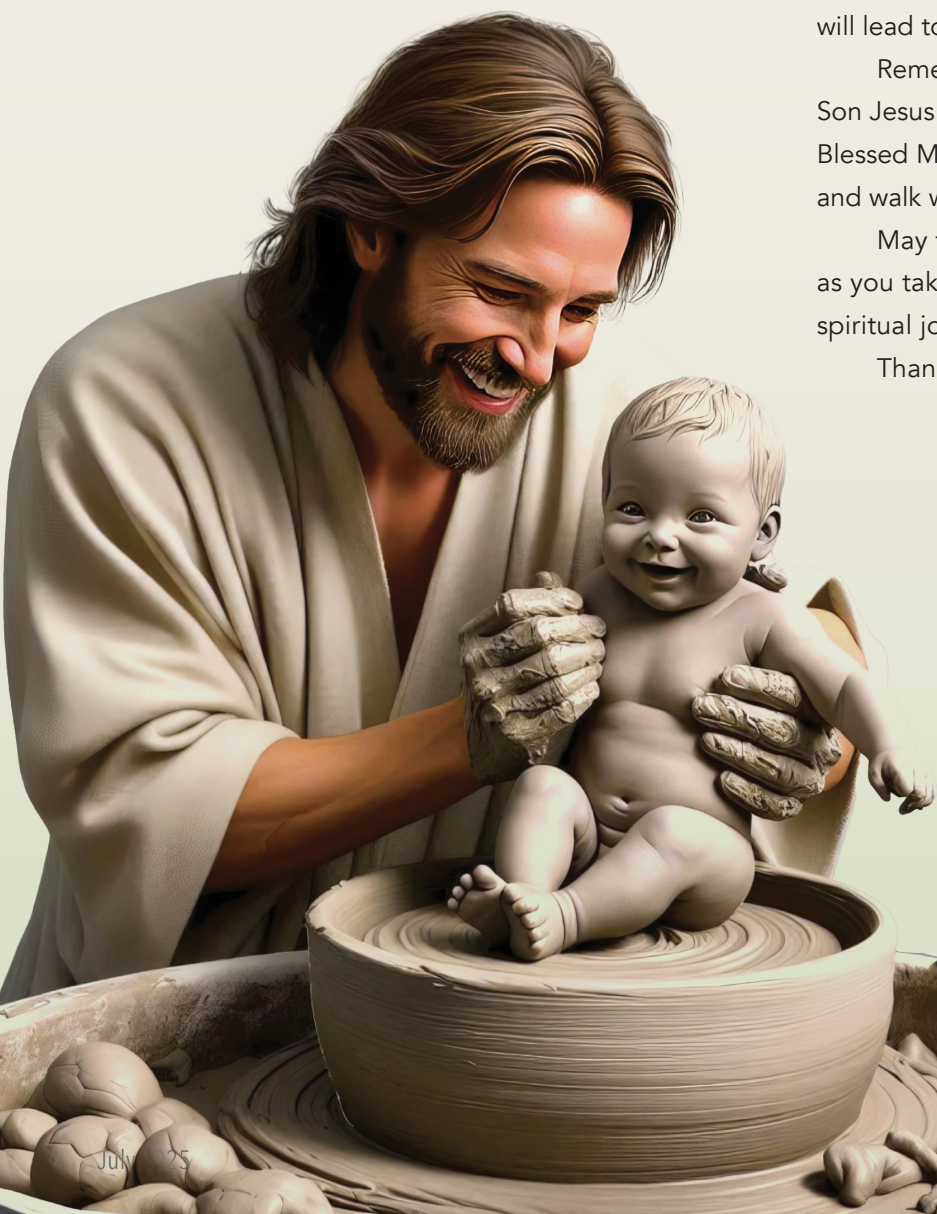
Have I faulted in my resolution? Have I quickly gotten up and return to union with God? In the past, being in the state of grace was an important consideration at the end of each day. The examination of conscience was a spiritual practice or spiritual exercise.

As we are invited to review our own state of life before God, it may stir emotions of joy and of sadness. The review that is led by the Holy Spirit will lead us all to the fountain of life again. If the review is prompted by the works of the evil One, the Accuser and Adversary, it will lead to sorrow that leads to despair and death.

Remember that God Our Father sent His Beloved Son Jesus to save us and not condemn us. We have our Blessed Mother Mary, Refuge of the Afflicted to support and walk with us.

May the Good Lord Jesus Christ assist you as you take some time to review and reorient your spiritual journey.

Thank You.



24–25 February 2025

Cesson Bridge Experience (CBX) Transitions Workshop for MYTC

On 24–25 February 2025, Montfort Centre was invited to organise a two-day *Managing Transitions in Life & Leadership* workshop for Montfort Youth Training Centre (MYTC), Sabah. Attended by 35 senior staff and leaders, the two-day session focused on navigating key changes, such as leadership transitions, retirements, and evolving structures. After 25 years of service, it was about time for MYTC to look back on its journey and envision the future. The workshop sparked honest conversations, fresh thinking, and a renewed sense of purpose as participants explored how to grow and lead through the changes while shaping a bold new direction for the years ahead.



26 February 2025

Introduction to The Art of Accompaniment Workshop for MYTC Pastoral Team

Montfort Centre conducted a formation workshop for the pastoral team at MYTC, focusing on the themes of accompaniment, deep listening, and spirit-led curiosity. Through engaging, hands-on sessions and heartfelt reflection, the workshop guided the pastoral team in exploring the true essence of accompaniment. The pastoral team was able to practise the art of listening and learn how intentional, open-ended questions can foster deeper human connection. After the workshop, the pastoral team left feeling inspired and better equipped with practical tools to journey with their trainees with greater compassion, attentiveness, and care.



7-9 March 2025

Montfortian Experience (MX) Love Without Limits

At the start of lent this year, we organised Montfortian Experience Lenten Retreat. Reflecting upon the theme of *"Love Without Limits"*, an intimate group of 15 participants joined us together in prayer, reflection, and shared experience. They reflected on the unconditional love of Jesus, a friend of the sinners, who invites each of us without hesitation to *"Come to me... Do not be afraid."*

The stay-in weekend retreat was structured by topics: *To Love & Be Loved, To Know As We Are Known, I Call You Friends, and Lay Down Your Life*. The participants were invited to experience Jesus' immersive and perfect love for them, despite their imperfections as in doing so, they discover the freedom of loving without limits.



"Through this retreat, I now have a better understanding of the 3 relationships: with God, with self and with neighbours."

"The retreat has provided me with insights into spiritual growth and personal transformation."

"I gained a new perspective on living a Christian life and deepened my understanding of God's love without limits."



12 May 2025

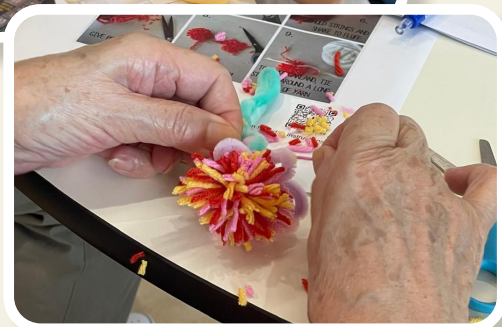
MX True or False Devotion

On 12 May 2025, we gathered for a Montfortian Experience Day of Recollection titled True or False Devotion. Drawing from True Devotion to Mary (nos. 92-103), Zerah led us through the seven false devotions to Our Lady. His relatable examples gently invited us to reflect inwardly to seek God while basking in the warm, gentle light of Truth.

We then spent time in silent reflection while making yarn pom-poms. It is a simple, repetitive activity that opened space for deeper contemplation on how we can live each day through, with, in, and for Mary.

As I pondered how to lovingly do things in Mary, a phrase from the book stayed with me: Mary is an enclosed garden. It is by grace that we find this garden, by grace we may enter, and by grace we remain.

Totus tuus,
Joy
Pastoral Worker



27–28 March 2025

CBX for Maris Stella High School (Primary)

Life is full of transitions, both big and small. Inspired by St Louis Marie de Montfort's example of leaving behind his old life at the Cesson Bridge to live a life for God alone, the Cesson Bridge Experience aims to bring the Montfortian Way to schools and students in transition. On 27 and 28 May 2025, we were invited to Maris Stella High School (Primary) to facilitate this programme for their Primary 6 students as they prepare to cross their own "bridge" into Secondary school.

Through various fun activities and exploring the life of their founder, St Marcellin Champagnat, the students were encouraged to be Aware of their feelings, Appreciate the people and blessings in their lives, and remain Adventurous as they Aspire towards their dreams. We were deeply touched by the students' openness in sharing their fears and dreams for the road ahead. Many of them expressed their fears of leaving behind familiar friends and a comfortable environment, and having to start anew in Secondary school. It was a privilege to walk with them during this difficult time of transition, and encourage them to continue moving in hope and working on their dreams!

God Alone,
Jeryl
Pastoral Worker



Support Our Mission

"Whoever gives to one of these little ones even a cup of cold water because he is a disciple, truly, I say to you, he shall not lose his reward (Matthew 10:42)."

You can make the Montfortian Experience possible for those in need by scanning this QR code.



▲ SCAN TO DONATE

24 – 27 JUNE 2025

MONTFORTIAN FORMATION

for Formators & Animators

Personnel Development Center
Bangkok, THAILAND



From 24 to 27 June 2025, a total of 37 participants attended the Montfortian Formation for Formators and Animators at the Personnel Development Center in Bangkok, Thailand. As a diverse and vibrant Montfortian family, there were attendees from Thailand, India, Singapore, the Philippines, Papua New Guinea, Malaysia, and Indonesia. The formation was joined by the members of the Company of Mary (SMM), the Montfort Brothers of St Gabriel, the Daughters of Wisdom; and lay associates from the Association of Mary, Queen of All Hearts, Montfortian Associates, Montfortian Gabrielite Associates, and Friends of Wisdom.

Addressing a Key Need

The genesis of this programme stemmed from a clear need that was identified during the last Montfortian Regional Conference held in Bandung, Indonesia. Participants expressed a deep desire for more in-depth formation to better understand St Louis de Montfort, his spirituality, and his profound writings. In response, the Montfortian Disciples of Asia- Pacific (MODA) Formation Committee, took the initiative to design and implement this regional formation programme.

Fr Hugh Gillespie, SMM, a Montfortian priest of the United States Province of the Company of Mary, served as the lead formator and guest speaker during the formation. He is known for his dynamic ministry in both English and Spanish, and in promoting the spirituality of St Louis de Montfort. He is the author of *Preparation for Total Consecration according to St Louis de Montfort* and *Presenting Total Consecration*, and currently serves

as Managing Editor of Montfort Publications and National Moderator of the Association of Mary, Queen of All Hearts.

Fr Hugh guided participants through the core Montfortian themes of Sharing in the Spirit, Mary, the Incarnation, the Cross, Poverty, Mission, and Integration. In his sessions, he was able to wove together the Scripture, prayers, hymns, and the writings of St Louis Marie de Montfort.

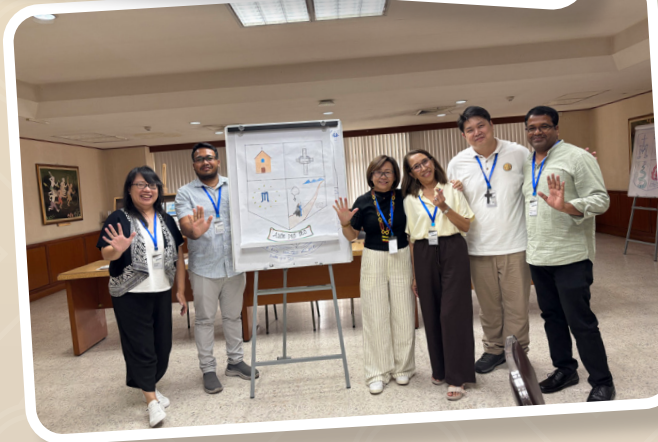




Key Insights Shared by Fr Hugh:

- **Prophetic Discipleship:** He expounded on the profound significance of the prophets Elijah and Elisha, respectively on the events of Elijah's ascension and Elisha's request for a double portion of his spirit. He connected these events to the specific steps and stages of discipleship as were revealed in the Gospels.
- **The Cana Event:** Fr Hugh offered a deeper understanding of the Cana event, highlighting how both the Blessed Mother Mary and, subsequently, Jesus and His disciples received distinct invitations to participate in God's plan.
- **Little Crown of the Blessed Virgin Mary:** Each morning began with this beautiful devotion. Fr Hugh explained its meaning and how it helps nurture a tender and sincere devotion to Mary. He described it as "placing our flowers on Her Twelve Stars."

In addition, there were also daily Mass with homilies, group activities, personal sharing, and a community cultural night where participants joyfully sang, danced, and shared aspects of our cultures. It was a memorable conclusion to a time of prayer, learning, and growing together in the spirit of Montfort.



April to July 2025

S.P.A: Spirituality, Prayer, Action

Launched earlier this year, S.P.A. offers a space to relax, recharge, and renew your spirit. Designed as a haven from the busyness of daily life, S.P.A. invites you to step away from the noise, nurture your soul, and embrace the journey toward inner freedom.

We are also welcoming collaborators. If you are interested in joining us, we would love to hear from you.

